

MINUTES OF SELECTMEN'S MEETING
TOWN OF GORHAM
MONDAY, June 4, 2012, 6:30 pm
TOWN HALL CONFERENCE ROOM

Selectmen present: Chairman David Graham, Paul Robitaille, Bill Jackson.

Also present: Robin L Frost, Town Manager

Jeff Schall, Norm Provencher, Henry Sanschagrin, Allison Jackson, Bank of NH, Diane Alinovi, Bank of NH, Denise Vallee, Jeff Stewart

1. Call to Order: The meeting was called to order at 6:30 by Chairman Graham.

2. Appointments:

a) Mike Waddell – Presentation: Selectman Robitaille spoke about Mike Waddell's involvement in the Town Hall restoration. He gave so much of his time; way above and beyond the time for which he was compensated. His focus was on doing the best job for the Town and he coordinated all the workers both skilled and unskilled. The result is the beautiful restoration of the Town Hall which continues to be a great place to conduct Town business and also hold events. The Board of Selectmen thanks him on behalf of the whole Town. Mr. Waddell was presented with a framed wall hanging of the pen and ink drawing of the town hall.

b) Allison Jackson – Bank of NH: Ms. Jackson and Ms. Alinovi of Bank of New Hampshire (formerly Laconia Savings Bank) came to talk about their institution and offer any help that they might be able to provide in the way of financial services. They distributed some information and offered to meet with us at any time to discuss any of their products further.

3. New Business:

a) Deputy Town Clerk: Chairman Graham reported that interviews were held last week for the vacant deputy town clerk/tax collector position. Town Clerk Grace Lapierre, Selectman Graham, Selectman Jackson and Finance Director Denise Vallee interviewed six candidates and it was determined that Carol Porter was the best fit for this position. She will begin on July 1st.

b) Recreation Department Planning: Chairman Graham talked about the possibility of moving the Rec Department out of the trailer. He said that there have been a few options discussed, but not really explored. Those are 1. Stay put, 2. Library, 3. Town Hall. Last budget season we talked about measuring the space in the Town Hall to see if it would be feasible to move the department here. We will continue with that plan and, if feasible, will further address that option later. Meanwhile, the Board suggested that Director Stewart and TM Frost work together to suggest viable options. It was then decided that TM Frost will bring this up under her update on the agenda rather than have this be a continuing agenda item.

c) General School Items: Chairman Graham said that baseball is over now, but he had not seen any information on the proposed netting to help eliminate stray foul and fly balls. He understands that there were no major problems this year, but would like to keep that issue alive. TM Frost stated that the

school did get a quote for the netting, but never took it any further. Selectman Jackson stated that there is baseball on the common and has been for many, many years. He feels that people just need to live with it.

d) Bus Policy: TM Frost had distributed a draft bus policy in the meeting packets so the Board members had a chance to review before the meeting. TM Frost explained that it is basic, but explains how the bus is to be used and what is expected of both the driver and the passengers. It also restricts use of the bus to the Town and non-profit entities. Selectman Jackson said he has no problem with it, but wanted to make sure we run the release form by Town Counsel before finalizing the policy. TM Frost will do that before the next meeting.

4. Old Business:

a) Building Permits on Private/Class VI Roads: TM Frost explained that this is on the agenda since the Planning Board had sent along their comments on the Lamarre building permit application. The Planning Board unanimously voted to recommend the the Board of Selectmen not issue any building permits on these private/class VI roads in the Pellerin Subdivision and to send the applicant to the ZBA. **On a motion by Selectman Robitaille, seconded by Selectman Jackson, the Board voted unanimously to send this issue to the ZBA for a determination**

b) Assessing Update: TM Frost reported that KRT Appraisals is on target with the collection of information and close to target on the data entry portion of the work. Selectman Jackson mentioned some complaints that were received by the Selectmen. TM Frost said that she had called KRT on Friday and let Rob Tozier know what the concerns were. He will address them and let us know the outcome. Regardless, he assured TM Frost that they intend to gain access to as many homes as possible. **On a motion by Selectman Jackson, seconded by Selectman Robitaille, the Board voted unanimously to have TM Frost and Assessing Clerk Michelle Lutz conduct random calls to make sure that KRT is performing their duties satisfactorily.**

c) 2011 Abatements/Exemptions: TM Frost reported that she finally heard back from Skip Sansoucy who stated that he would have his recommendations on the 2011 abatements to us by the first week in June, which is this week. As far as the exemptions go, Ms. Lutz is still working with DRA Monitor Josephine Belville in verifying the eligibility of the applicants

5. Public Comment: Norm Provencher is hoping that if we move the Recreation Department, we can utilize an existing building rather than build a new building.

Henry Sanschagrín felt that the determination of the flood zones on the new maps seems wrong. Mike Waddell explained how that happened. Mr. Waddell is suggesting shooting some elevations in certain part of Town to strengthen the Town's claim that the flood maps are flawed.

6. Other Business:

Denise Vallee reported that the school has locked into an oil price already. Since the prices seem to be dropping at this time, Ms. Vallee asked if she were able to also get a favorable rate, would the Board be able to approve, by email, locking in that rate. The Board agreed to do that and reaffirm the rate at a public meeting.

a) Town Manager's Update: TM Frost reported that the NRCS projects are moving along. The engineering is being completed at this time and it is hoped that there will be plans ready for the property owners to review within two weeks.

TM Frost, EMS Director Miller and Selectman Jackson interviewed three companies who submitted proposals for the provision of IT services to the Town. After the interviews were complete, the recommendation was to go with Northledge Technologies from Jackson. They will provide a service contract in the amount of \$3400, which represents 40 hours of time at \$85 per hour.

b) Selectmen's Reports: Selectman Robitaille said that he attended the meeting of the Androscoggin River Committee. He was pleased to find that there are people on the committee who wish to promote both recreational and commercial use of the river.

Selectman Robitaille checked on the rivers in Town this weekend during all the rain and found that all was well and the work performed over the winter and spring was holding fine.

Selectman Jackson reported that though he feels the *Gorham Gazette* is a delightful newspaper, he was concerned when he read the informational piece "Gorham Glimpses." What appeared to be an informational article, though mostly that, ended with a paragraph that was purely the opinion of the writer. He felt that this was misleading and inappropriate and should have been written as a letter to the editor or inserted as an editorial. He also mentioned the blurb on the informational kiosk, which incorrectly reported that there were costs attached to the construction of the building. He asked that a letter be prepared for the Board members to sign and send to the *Gorham Gazette* expressing the concerns.

Selectman Jackson asked about moving the engine brake sign to the bottom of Gorham Hill. TM Frost stated that it does need to be moved and will address that issue forthwith. He also wondered why there were cones and sandbags on Blunden Street. TM Frost said she would ask PWD Holmes.

Other items from Selectmen Jackson included:

The letter he requested be written for Adele Woods, congratulating the CCFHS on all they do for the community. This will be taken care of tomorrow by TM Frost.

John Losier still has a dump truck on Town property. TM Frost will contact John Scarinza to follow up on this.

Lack of information/mail coming to the Board of Selectmen. He would like to make sure they see information like minutes from AVRRDD and anything else that comes through the office. Please also stamp with the three lines for Selectmen's signatures.

Selectman Jackson stated that he is concerned with the condition of the Town. He doesn't think it is looking well to visitors and residents. He sees signs popping up all over the place and these used to be removed by DPW. Apparently this is no longer being done. He also stated that DPW used to weedwhack the riverbank between Mr. Pizza and the old Laconia Savings Bank building. It looks bad and needs to be done. TM Frost will address these concerns with DPW Director Holmes.

Selectman Jackson asked about the State's plans for paving Main Street and TM Frost replied that they will be doing the travel lanes only and it will be a grind in place method. He then stated that the driveways along Main Street need some clean up and repair. While he understands that TM Frost has a concern with spending taxpayer money on private property, he just wants this work completed. TM Frost stated that she would contact the property owners to encourage them to get this done.

c) Approval of Minutes (May 21, 2012): On a motion by Selectman Robitaille, seconded by Chairman Graham, the Board voted 2-0-1 (Jackson) to approve the minutes as presented.

c) Sign Manifest: The Board signed the manifest as prepared.

d) Sign Abatements (if necessary): There were no abatements.

7. Non-Public Session: RSA 91-A:3, II (a): On a motion by Selectman Robitaille, seconded by Selectman Jackson, the Board moved into non-public session at 8:07 pm by unanimous roll call vote. Robitaille, Aye, Jackson, Aye, Graham – Aye.

On a motion by Selectman Robitaille, seconded by Chairman Graham, the Board came out of non-public session at 8:34 pm by unanimous roll call vote. Robitaille – Aye, Jackson, Aye, Graham – Aye.

There were no decisions made as a result of the non-public session.

8. Adjournment: The meeting was adjourned at 8:34 pm.

REVIEWED AND APPROVED:

David Graham

Paul Robitaille

William H. Jackson